

Current Economic Programs Printed Survey Results: by the *Annual* (Wholesale) Trade Statistics Users Respondent Base

U.S. Census Bureau
Current Economic Statistics User Survey

OMB CQM-26 (Rev.5/5/98)

I. DATA CONTENT

Your answers identifying the survey data you use will help us understand our users' patterns of data use.

1. Which Current Economic Statistics from the Census Bureau do you use? (Mark all that apply.)

(1) Monthly

0.5%;	1	None
74.0%;	159	Retail Sales
70.7%;	152	Wholesale Trade
64.7%;	139	Manufacturing/Trade Inventory/Sales
59.1%;	127	Housing Starts
54.9%;	118	Building Permits
50.2%;	108	New Home Sales
47.0%;	101	Value of New Construction Put in Place
35.3%;	76	Housing Completions
29.3%;	63	Expenditures for Residential Improvements
38.6%;	83	New Residential Construction
19.5%;	42	New Mobile Home Placements
49.3%;	106	Monthly Imports and Exports
58.6%;	126	Current Industrial Reports
53.0%;	114	Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, Orders

Replies 215; Forms 237

(2) Quarterly

51.5%;	69	Quarterly Financial Report
80.6%;	108	Current Industrial Reports
3.7%;	5	Federal Assistance Awards Data System
16.4%;	22	Quarterly Tax Survey
7.5%;	10	Quarterly Public Employee Retirement

Replies 134; Forms 237

(3) Annual

85.2%;	202	Annual Retail Trade
100.0%;	237	Annual (Wholesale) Trade
35.9%;	85	Annual Survey of Communications
40.1%;	95	Transportation Annual Survey
41.8%;	99	Service Annual Survey
61.6%;	146	County Business Patterns

35.4%;	84	ZIP Code Business Patterns
45.6%;	108	Statistics of U.S. Businesses
31.2%;	74	Characteristics of New Housing
43.5%;	103	Annual Building Permits
27.4%;	65	New Residential Construction in Selected Metropolitan Areas
33.3%;	79	Annual Capital Expenditures
74.3%;	176	Annual Survey of Manufactures
57.8%;	137	Current Industrial Reports
22.4%;	53	Research and Development Survey
31.6%;	75	Plant Capacity Utilization
11.4%;	27	Education Finance Survey
16.0%;	38	State Tax Collection Survey
7.2%;	17	Annual Public Employee Retirement
15.6%;	37	Annual Survey of Public Employment
14.8%;	35	Consolidated Federal Funds Report
26.2%;	62	State Government Finances
47.3%;	112	Annual Imports and Exports

Replies 237; Forms 237

II. DATA DELIVERY

The Census Bureau is considering use of the Internet as the primary method of data delivery. By completing the following questions, you will help us retain the most essential delivery formats and design the best possible data delivery service.

(4) 2. How do you receive current economic data now? (Mark all that apply.)

89.8%;	211	Printed Publications	17.0%;	40	FAX
74.9%;	176	World Wide Web (Internet)	14.5%;	34	Direct (E-mail) delivery
45.5%;	107	CD-ROMs	2.1%;	5	Regular mail
23.4%;	55	Diskettes	6.0%;	14	Other

Replies 235; Forms 237

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- visit to Census release library and requests to commerce library.
 - Would prefer receiving printed schedules to let me know what data is available via internet.
 - Electronic "Bulletin Boards"
 - TAPE 1/2
 - Check values by telephone
 - also use microfiche in some cases.
 - time-share vendor (private)
 - hard copy computer run
 - Newswires
 - Stat-USA
 - Overnight Delivery of NIA data
 - CD Rom & Publications in Library
 - Second hand through trade journals
 - Subscribe to America Statistic Index on Microfiche
 - STAT-USA+WEFA Group
-

(5) 3. What format do you PREFER when downloading data for further manipulation? (Mark all that apply.)

68.2%;	150	Spreadsheet (e.g., wkl, xls, etc...)
33.6%;	74	Database (e.g., dbf, mdb, etc...)
25.5%;	56	ASCII delimited

18.2%;	40	ASCII flat files
16.8%;	37	Retrieve from print or screen and enter manually
13.2%;	29	Do not manipulate data
3.6%;	8	Other

Replies 220; Forms 237

- Sas data sets
- Change to landscape small font 9
- to be determined
- Text files: txt. or PRN
- Also as text or word file
- PDF formats were the best
- PDF Files
- Word Document

4. What capabilities do you want on the Census Internet site? (For each line, indicate the degree of your preferences, from 5 [high] to 1 [low].)

(6) a. Direct (E-mail) delivery:

44.8%;	94	5	18.1%;	38	3	8.1%;	17	1
17.1%;	36	4	7.1%;	15	2	4.8%;	10	Don't know

Replies 210; Forms 237

(7) b. E-mail notification:

41.7%;	86	5	22.3%;	46	3	7.3%;	15	1
14.6%;	30	4	9.2%;	19	2	4.9%;	10	Don't know

Replies 206; Forms 237

(8) c. Retrieve/display to screen:

56.2%;	118	5	12.9%;	27	3	5.2%;	11	1
18.1%;	38	4	1.9%;	4	2	5.7%;	12	Don't know

Replies 210; Forms 237

(9) d. Search:

72.5%;	158	5	8.3%;	18	3	0.9%;	2	1
16.1%;	35	4	0.5%;	1	2	1.8%;	4	Don't know

Replies 218; Forms 237

(10) e. Download complete data sets:

71.0%;	149	5	9.0%;	19	3	1.4%;	3	1
11.9%;	25	4	4.3%;	9	2	2.4%;	5	Don't know

Replies 210; Forms 237

(11) f. Download selected data:

73.5%;	158	5	5.6%;	12	3	1.4%;	3	1
14.4%;	31	4	2.8%;	6	2	2.3%;	5	Don't know

Replies 215; Forms 237

(12) g. Software help/tutorials:

26.1%;	52	5	29.1%;	58	3	5.0%;	10	1
19.6%;	39	4	14.1%;	28	2	6.0%;	12	Don't know

Replies 199; Forms 237

(13) h. Publication-quality printing:

34.1%;	70	5	21.0%;	43	3	10.2%;	21	1
20.0%;	41	4	13.2%;	27	2	1.5%;	3	Don't know

Replies 205; Forms 237

(14) i. Charts and graphs:

29.4%;	62	5	20.4%;	43	3	10.9%;	23	1
22.3%;	47	4	14.7%;	31	2	2.4%;	5	Don't know

Replies 211; Forms 237

(15) j. Geographic maps:

30.8%;	62	5	18.4%;	37	3	13.4%;	27	1
18.4%;	37	4	13.9%;	28	2	5.0%;	10	Don't know

Replies 201; Forms 237

(16) k. Other, please specify:

70.6%;	12	electronic bulletin board	29.4%;	5	Other
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Replies 17; Forms 237

- Structure and specialists available to help researchers find data.
 - Internet site very important to receive data from.
 - Don't know if electronic bulletin is used to collect
 - electronic
 - Update full report at release time
-

(17) l. Electronic Bulletin Board (To collect write-ins)

0.0%;	0	5	0.0%;	0	3	0.0%;	0	1
0.0%;	0	4	100.0%;	1	2	0.0%;	0	Don't know

Replies 1; Forms 237

III. DATA USAGE

Your answers describing how you use the data will help us design the most effective Current Economic Statistics retrieval tool.

(18) 5. Do you combine/compare/merge data from more than one source listed in Question 1?

27.8%; 62 No	72.2%; 161 Yes
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Replies 223; Forms 237

(19) 6. What time periods do you consider when using these data? (Mark X all that apply.)

63.8%; 146 trends up to 5 years	43.2%; 99 trends up to 1 year
63.3%; 145 5+ years	0.0%; 0 Other
48.9%; 112 latest 1 or 2 periods	

Replies 229; Forms 237

(20) 7. How do you use the data? (Mark all that apply.)

52.6%; 120 Create value-added products/services
45.2%; 103 Perform patron/client inquiries
25.0%; 57 Inform marketing decisions
22.8%; 52 Republish in newspaper/journal
16.2%; 37 Store reports/printouts for archival purposes
15.8%; 36 Inform investment decisions
6.6%; 15 Locate new sites
0.9%; 2 Other

Replies 228; Forms 237

- Research
 - Store data in database.
-

(21) 8. What explanatory information do you consult when using these data? (Mark all that apply.)

80.2%; 178 Definition of terms
60.4%; 134 Narrative text describing survey results
55.4%; 123 Sampling and estimation methodology
42.8%; 95 Survey design
9.9%; 22 None
2.7%; 6 Other

Replies 222; Forms 237

- Data Dictionary
 - short trend summary is extremely helpful-where possible.
 - Direct contact with Census analysts
 - Comparisons to earlier surveys and/or similar data from other agencies--e.g. census to BEA in one estimates.
 - Census Bureau Staff
 - Phone calls to Census and or DOL
-

(22) 9. Do you have any pressing data or information needs that are not currently being met?

-
- No. Increasingly more and more data sets are becoming available electronically-which makes our work easier by eliminating manual inputing of data.
 - Regional retail sales estimates (cancelled after 1996)

- Yes--Need more timely and more defined (i.e. 4-digit SIC code) SUB-NATIONAL data.
- Retail Trade Monthly - Regional Data Survey - Blue Pages, Building Permits - Non-Resident & Additions.
- Print publications no longer available, yet there is no notice that the print publication will no longer exist. Impossible to find the exact publication on the Internet so clients can compare and update printed data. Current information available but how long will older information remain available?
- No.
- No.
- Monthly commercial building permit statistics for Putnam Co. New York.
- Automated material Handling systems i.e. order fulfilling & sortation (via dispensing)
- Information on nonresidential construction.
- Printing in ASCII, converted to 6.1. That gives complete graph - 15 columns.
- Foreign trade - exports & imports - by 4-digit (data that had been available in "Trades Employment") - without SIC (& soon NAIC), cannot compare trade with domestic activity.
- Data on residential construction; alterations, renovations and conversions; and county level mobile home shipments.
- No.
- Info at small geographic levels, villages, small cities, townships
- Selected salaries for selected industries & occupations.
- MCD Business Patterns, Massachusetts is doing away with county government, MCD income estimates.
- Non-residential building permits--number by type of building.
- The availability of Residential and Commercial Building Permit Data.
- Accurate and timely international statistics on the air conditioning, refrigeration and heating industry.
- We use and would like to continue to use retail sales by county data and the merchandise line sales data.
- I'd love to see employment data by SIC based on place of residence. Also wish for reconciliation between RIMS, SIC, & NAICS.
- Int'l trade data on internet are inadequate. Only press releases are there. When data are revised, if data are not in the press release, there is no way to get the revisions (ex: monthly data from exhibits 6&7 of FT900).
- Monthly historical trade data.
- Number of Mobile Homes & Value of, by state, on a monthly basis. (Currently only published annually) -- Also, by county, if possible.
- Non-residential building permits data and value of new non-residential construction part in place.
- More detailed retail information.
- Monthly trade data based on export location.
- Yes: Durable goods forecast for up to 12 months. I can't find this info anywhere.
- Keeping ____ disaggregated data sets ____ possible that are consistent, and therefore directly comparable is very helpful.
- 1) NAICS to harmonized code concordance. 2) Timely plant capacity utilization at greatest detail level possible. 3) Windows version import data/monthly annual easy to use historical with full detail. 4) New Home sales (without land).
- MSA level business patterns. Estimates (updated info) on a wider range of demographic variable for counties and sub-counties.
- Current employment by #'s of employees, by SIC, by MCD, by specific employer ID only.
- YES! Bring back non-residential state/local permits authorized! This was a severe loss for interpreting local economic trends. Also, more geographic detail, more frequently.
- Commodity flows data with 3 digit SIC value of shipments between states-The state to state flows.
- Seasonal Population - estimates. More information on affordable housing-market.
- State, county & local permit data for nonresidential construction. Use to get this.
- Monthly Retail Sales for U.S. Metropolitan Areas.
- current retail sales
- Yes. I have been looking for cost data for pollution data for different pollutants by categories for the last years from 1993 +, but could not.
- More frequent substate mtg. stats (annual survey is state wide only)
- Household Expenditure Data at State Level.

- I need quarter-by-quarter growth figures in areas such as sales, inventories, GOP, construction, etc.
- Pollution abatement expenditures by SIC
- We want SIC data at the product level by region. Please make every effort to provide locational tags to Canadian & Mexican data. Full country data profiles are not sufficient.
- Business starts by SIC at the County level.
- Would like Government Finance series in print form.
- Non-residential Building permits.
- Need more detailed annual data for 6 digit SIC codes
- Place and regional economic data sets in relation to population/race trends.
- Utilization of data for merging with Atlas GIS. Convert landview to include information down to Block level.
- Make data reports easier to print off of the web.
- Service Data on an manual/quarterly/monthly basis by 2,3, & 4-digit SIC!
- Advanced Retail numbers should have "jewelry stores".
- Website is extremely difficult to navigate.
- The annual survey of manufacturers needs to be in ASCII or pdf format; as well as pdf. We spend too many hours re-entering the data.
- Timelines of making data available in the WEB.
- Need detailed PPI data.
- Need to simplify getting quick data.
- Elimination of Group II sales data and problems
- Median income and poverty tables are not in spreadsheet form (they one were).
- Imports and exports by 4-digit SIC. Very important--in print. Publication form--quarterly.
- We would like to see more economic data and analyses at the state & MSA level.
- In general, estimates and figures at higher geographic levels, such as block groups or zip + 4's.
- Geographic Area Retail Sales
- Quarterly data, analyzed growth rates for all statistics. Currently, only some of the data is shown as a quarterly growth rate analyzed.
- MSA retail sales
- Monthly service sector sales counterpart data to retail, wholesale, and manufacturing shipments.
- Permits for remodeling and non-residential construction.
- Population Projections
- The more history, the better.
- Commercial, Industrial, and other non-residential construction put-in-place!
- Export data at SMSA level.
- Non-residential construction data outside California! Bring it back!
- We have a need for long historical time series and for long-term forecasts.
- Information about how well the ACES programs capture new business formation and business deaths.
- Commercial Building Permits County level on a timely basis.
- As a foreign academic library, we are concerned about cost of access.
- Report on production of industrial fabrics
- Very disappointed that non-residential building permit data is no longer being tracked--our models rely on this!

IV. INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION ISSUES

We will soon begin restructuring the Current Economic Surveys based on the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Your answers will help us ensure that these surveys continue to provide the economic information needed by markets, policy makers, and business people. For more information on NAICS, see the Bureau's web site: <http://www.census.gov/NAICS>.

(24) 10. At what levels of detail do you MOST FREQUENTLY USE industry data classified by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)? (Mark all that apply.)

74.0%; 168 4-digit industries (or maximum detail I can get)
41.0%; 93 Sector totals (SIC division); e.g., Manufacturing or Retail Trade
40.5%; 92 2-digit major groups
38.3%; 87 3-digit industry groups
5.3%; 12 NA (don't use SIC-based data)
5.3%; 12 Other

Replies 227; Forms 237

- digit SIC product codes
 - D & B 10 digit breakdown
 - HS
 - NAICS, Duns' Product Codes
 - 7-digit in some cases
 - Greater detail when available
 - The greatest level available--CIR level. Product level.
 - Name of Industry & # of employees
 - I don't use this much, but others in the agency do!
 - Would like to have 6 or 7 digit SIC
 - Only sell the NAICS
 - Prefer to retrieve data by HS#
-

(25) 11. Were you aware that the SIC system is being replaced by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)?

21.2%; 49 I was unaware of this
29.0%; 67 I am partially aware, but lack details
49.8%; 115 I am aware and understand some implications

Replies 231; Forms 237

12. Would you like to receive more information about NAICS?

(26) Yes, please send me - (Mark all that apply)

88.3%; 143	A brochure that explains NAICS	30.9%; 50	Conference announcements
66.7%; 108	NAICS implementation plans	3.7%; 6	Other

Replies 162; Forms 237

- Send info on NAICS comparability with existing SIC data.
 - H.S. Concordances
 - The reference book of classifications
 - I am awaiting CD-ROM!
 - Already know
-

(27) No Thanks -

66.2%; 47 I will check the Census Bureau's web site (www.census.gov/naics)
33.8%; 24 I don't need more information about NAICS

Replies 71; Forms 237

V. USER PROFILE

Please tell us about yourself so we may serve you better.

(28) 13. Type of organization.

40.8%;	95	Business	3.4%;	8	Individual
24.9%;	58	Government	3.0%;	7	Media
17.6%;	41	Academic/Research	1.3%;	3	Library
4.7%;	11	Association	4.3%;	10	Other

Replies 233; Forms 237

-
- Consulting
 - Economics Consulting
 - Economic Development District State Data Center depository.
 - Labor Union
 - Consultant
 - Library (University
 - University
 - Corp. Library
 - non-profit trade promotion
 - Regional Planning Commission
-

(29) 14. Do you work in your organization's library?

36.2%;	83	Yes	63.8%;	146	No
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Replies 229; Forms 237

(30) 15. What is your affiliation with the Census Bureau?

69.1%;	159	None	3.5%;	8	Census Information Center
12.2%;	28	State Data Center	0.9%;	2	Affiliate Data Center
4.8%;	11	Business/Industry Data Center	9.6%;	22	Other

Replies 230; Forms 237

-
- State Government Agency.
 - Richmond Public Library, BST Dept. 101 E. Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23219
 - Associate Stat Data Center
 - Federal User
 - State Data Center Affiliation
 - City Government
 - Cooperator in disseminating permits authorized data
 - Census Liason
 - Research
 - Provider of Business Data to the Census Bureau
 - Customer
 - Depository
 - Economic Development Distirct State Data Center depository
 - DOC Staff
 - Data use.
 - Heavy user
 - Sell Census documents
 - GPO Depository
 - Trade Association
 - BEA, U.S. Department of Commerce
-

- Associate Data Center
- Federal Depository Library

(35) 20. May we contact you to follow up on this questionnaire?

78.2%; 176 Yes

21.8%; 49 No

Replies 225; Forms 237

(36) Question 21. Remarks:

- We greatly appreciate this survey. I'd like to stress one major concern we have: As you move toward complete Internet delivery of data--please continue to publish "hard copies" of the economic reports for us to compare as backup. We have noticed that occasionally there are errors in Electronic Bulletin Board and Internet files--so we rely on the hard copy as backup. We use it as a safeguard. Thank you and feel free to contact me at your convenience.
- Staff is very friendly and helpful at you department.
- The computerized data is fine when know exactly which dat you want. It is not so good when you want to know what is available and related information; in this case the printed publication e.g. censu of Manufactures, is far superior.
- We would like to be placed on your mailing list to regularly received the publications as check-marked on the attached listing form.

Sincerely, William A. Rossi

- Would like info on NAICS asap.
- I've been trying to get Census data since 1991. I've use NTDB CD-ROM, StatUSA CD and now the Internet site. As soon as I learn the system really well--you change it. After I loaded the StatUSA CD--The NTDB CD would not work. We need older figures going back to the 1980's. It's impossible to run NTDP, then StatUSA on the smae PC. I really hate the StatUSA CD.
- 1). It is important to be able to retrieve data in easy to use formats (spreadsheet or ascii)- "pdf" formats are convenient to print, but difficult to use. 2). Please see question 9. 3). We are concerned about the discontinuity in time series data that will occur with NAICS. The 1987 SIC change was a significant problem--NAICS will likely be much worse. Any help from Census (bridges, publication of data in both classifications) would be a great help to data users.
- I suport the move toward Internet data delivery because it should make data available faster and at a lower cost. the challenge is to make it easy for the widest variety of data users as possible to retrieve the data the need.

Example: I use County Business Patterns to track number of establishment for certain industries by state. I believe dat users on the Internet currently can select only one year at a time and one state at a time. the ability to put together summary tables based on selections would help a lot.

- The Bureau of the Census has done a great job with it's web sites. Wth the exception of some unpublished data, everything is available through the internet. The unpublished data is received by direct e-mail.
- A published paper version should always be made available for purchase to the public. Information being available on the internet is nice, yet it is a completely different animal than having a hard copy version of the information. An example: I can receive my new off the internet, but I still prefer to get my newspaper in the morning for reading at my leisure away from a computer.
- Joe Cantalupo is no longer in service to the County of Rockland.
- When is 1997 Census to be available? Please keep as much of the data in print as possible--Thanks!
- Census bureau data is always helpful--the data you provide enhances our publication and enables readers to make informal business decisions.
- --But please ask for Deborah Foster.

Thank you.

- Documents need to more clearly state whom to contact for follow-up information.

- Thanks for asking!
- The efforts to provide electronic format data are a vast improvement over paper/hard copy publications. They have increased the accuracy and utility of the data sets.
- The level of detail varies depending on the type of data requested. Mostly county-level data is used because this is what is available.

Although the technology of the internet is available to tie up my phone line browsing for information to print out is very time consuming, whereas a printed report is much easier to access & reference. Not all government entities have the capacity to keep pace with new, faster, computer hardware & software.

- Census data has proven invaluable to in-depth country comparisons of productivity in sectors extremely valuable organization.

Please keep going with the detailed data, comparable time series (IS NAICS comparable?) and aggregate numbers.

- We used to receive from state employment agency using worker comp data lists by geography MCD; by SIC; by name of employer--the number of employees. We were well aware this was sensitive data for competitive reasons of employer confidentiality. Unfortunately, someone at another agency apparently released some of this data to the "public" and now it is unavailable--what is left is very inadequate, unsorted data--difficult to interpret. We can not do adequate community profiles by consolidated data any more. How can similar data be obtained?
- We use business/commercial statistics when writing market reports. We are not regular users of any of the Census publications, but value them highly in our individual case work.
- Being able to download from the web site has generally worked very well for us. The only troublesome aspect is that the page numbers of the PDF documents differ from the page numbers in their table of contents (e.g. - printing page 18 gets you page 12 of the document).

A big "thank you" to the Census specialists who have been most helpful and polite when we've called with questions.

- We serve a varied clientele (academic, business, government, and private citizens) and work across many subject. Census data are absolutely vital to us. Our biggest need is for more geographic area detail more frequently (state, county, place, if possible). Users often do not understand the 5 yr. gaps and lag time for the major Economic Surveys that offer such detail, much less the 10 yr. decennial cycle. The internet is a great help in speeding "publication", but we find access is not yet universal. We still download and print entire documents for guide reference and historical purposes. I am concerned about just how long the electronic media will remain accurate and usable as technology changes. How will the Bureau deal with these problems?
- Stat-USA is an extremely useful tool for retrieving data. I would like to see more files in spreadsheet format and the ability to download particular segments.
- Please contact ASAP: Bob Davidson, Gov't Information Service Section Palm Beach county Library System Service

3650 SUMMIT BLVD. 33406
(561) 233-2600, ext. 164
email Robert ID@PB.SEFLIN.ORG

- I believe this survey contains a lot of information to be used.
- Retail sic classification need major redo.
- Data validity in the NAICS project is one of our concerns. Has any provision been for cross checks of the data?
- I received the survey on August 7th--so was not able to return it in the time requested!

Our office is very interested in any information on the implementation of NAICS--as our researchers will be using it a great deal.

- We look forward to working with you on the upcoming Census.
- Tables which have no column headings and which one must consult separate documents are highly confusing.
- Tutorials and/or manuals should be sent out with Census products. I have fiddled enough with

- Landview III to utilize some of its versatility. Other colleagues won't due to lack of time to waste on self-teaching (fumbling).

Landview III should allow searches down to the Block level & just empty the fields which raise concerns regarding privacy at that level.

- I always use your data for the economic releases. My major concerns are: timeliness of data availability on web and being able to print the data from the web without having to reformat printing fonts. I also to the revisions when they come out, but often the location and structure of the revisions is confusing.
- I appreciate receiving this survey.
- I think the advancements on the Web over the past few years have been excellent. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has put much of this data in raw form on their FTP site. I'd like to see the Census Bureau make the FTP site more accessible and have more information.
- We use and like your stuff.
- When converting to NAICS providing 10 years of history would be extremely valuable.
- Please update my address in your records. Thanks!
- We love the Census Bureau! Clear publications indices and ease of search engines on the Internet site are very important to us. Also, choice of how to download data is good, not all users need or can use spreadsheet software.
- Will all Census data be available only via the Internet? My customers prefer printed format. Thank you.
- More documentation and instructions for obtaining data from gohper directories would be helpful.
- I appreciate the value of your service! Educators use information for social profit.
- Security made your site impossible to enter from our system. My trial membership was a waste of money.
- I use your "Telephone contacts for Data Users" and phone for help and information--of ten. I am very pleased with the response and helpfulness of all the people at Census, from receptionists to analysts. It would be nice to get it regularly. I forget, from year to year, to send for updates, until I notice that some contact names are out of date.
- I like the fact that the Census Bureau Produces many of its documents in the .pdf format, these are easy to print, bind and archive in our library. However, what is even more important to our firm is the ability to manipulate the data, and easily bring it into a data base or spreadsheet. If I had to choose I would prefer the raw data to the printable format.

I might use more of the data listed in question now that I know it exists.

- Glad more of your publications are being made available on the Internet! Suggestion for format of employment data-group by years first, then industry. Is there some alternative for obtaining non-residential building permits.

Figure 1: